POCAHONTAS TIMES.
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EACH side wins the Cuban war. The matter will possibly resolve itself into another Revolutionary affair. Spain will find, like England did, that her colony is costing her more than it is worth, and she will probably let her go.

MARIE BARBERI, an Italian girl, hes been sentenced to be electrocuted on the 19th of August, for cutting the throat of her betrayer. It is confidently expected that executive clemancy will save her from the death chair. Besides the fact that this poor girl was driven desperate, and other extenuating circumstances, there is much to be said why a woman should not be condemned to death.

IF u wud kep abrest of the times u must advocat fonetic speling. Lif is to short to multiply leters, and, therefor, many of the britest lites and wisest thinkers hav concluded that the shortest wa rond was the easiest wa home, so an effort haz been mad to spel words, not acording to eny dicshunary now extant, but by the sond therof. Artemas Ward tried this, but, having practiced it a few yers, dide yong. It ma do for som of the abnormal riters of the 19th century, but for us who hav intellects of standard wate and mesur, we find it to grat a stran on the aforsed powers to unlern our speling bok, and to remember what we never nu. So while the periodicals isued by Funk & Wagnals ma adopt the new sistem, tha canot expect the suport of this paper. We a unwilling to transform our shet into a tipografical nitemar.

IT does not require a very long ramble from Marlinton these pleasant summer days to meet with repeated reminders of Whittier's charming verses:

Blessings on thee, little man,
Barefoot boy with cheek of tan,
With turned-up pantaloons,
And thy merry, whistled tunes;
With the sunshine on thy face
Through thy torn brim's jaunty grace;
From my heart I give thee joy—
I was once a barefoot boy.
Thou hast more than wealth can buy
In the reach of ear and eye—
Outward sunshine, inward joy,
Blessings on thee, barefoot boy.

There is one resident of Marlinton who will feel sadly at fault in his hopes and judgment if these living pictures of bareroot boy do not turn out to be some of the best of men as the result of outward sunshine and the inward joys of present, along with the blessings of the poet, treasured up in the hearts of friends and parents and expressed in sincere desire where none but God can hear.

AN "open letter," which need not be referred to by a more specific description, may have caused some to think that the ever-recurring business of the building of the court-house has been mismanaged by the County Court, the figures given by it showing only an inconsiderable sum remaining due to Manly on the contract, and that there was something seriously wrong with the building. As will be seen in another column, a reduction of $1000 will make the county whole. The court-house business is in no state to cause alarm, and not even comment. The court-house, extra work, fence and furniture have not been settled for, except such payments as have fallen due under the contract, and been approved by the Court, architect, and the self-interested citizens. In a nutshell it may be said that Manly will be due from the county some $32,000, in round numbers, of which the Court has allowed between twenty-two and twenty-three thousand dollars. This leaves $10,000 between the county and danger, and would rather trend to show careful business policy on the part of the Court in not paying out money too readily, than to disparage the business capacity of the members.

Interview With Mr Geisy.

When the architect, Mr Geisy, who is employed by Pocahontas County, and whose duty it is to stand between the county and the company which is building the new court-house and jail, was in town this week, he was approached by the representative of this paper and asked concerning the reports extant as to the carelessness of the County Court in relation to payments made the Manly Manufacturing Company, and whether they had paid that company any amounts in excess of what they should have paid it, in order to be safe.

He said: "The Court has kept within the *letter* of the law. They have issued orders to the amount of $22,738, and that includes the money paid by the Development Company. When they made that order they required that the same amount ($5000) be returned to the Court, which was done, and those orders are practically destroyed. Outside of the roof, the building can be accepted under the specifications. There are many things that are not according to the specifications, but they can be changed at a small cost, say $50. The roof cannot be accepted, and the county should be paid the difference. The reduction should be at least $1000."

All this, and much more to the same effect, was said by the architect, who then referred the writer to his report to the Court. In speaking of the whole building in that he says: "The reduction in my judgment that is necessary to make the county whole is at least one thousand dollars."

This, therefore, means that the building is desirable in the architect's estimation at the price of $27,423, ($1000 less than the contract price) and of this the county has allowed orders to the amount of $22,738. Until the architect, who has the perfect confidence of the most careful and disturbed citizens, can be accused of being in league with the builders, which everyone knows is most emphatically not the case, no one need be alarmed as to the safety of the county.

THERE was no call for the "open letter," and, besides, "it will never do to fool the people."

SHIPS that pass in the night and speak each other in passing,
Only a signal shown and a distant voice in the darkness;
So on the ocean of life we pass and speak one another,
Only a look and a voice, then darkness again and a silence.
—*Longfellow.*

THE Elkins boom has merged into the Goff vice-President boom.

SILVER stands about as much show in Kentucky as cold water.

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